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Iseult, are considered in their individual forms and in their combination by Sir Thomas Malory. Spenser and Milton, as students of the legends, are considered in two brief chapters, and then comes the unromantic period of prose and reason of the eighteenth century, a period, however, that did not entirely forget its heritage of these romantic tales. Then follows an adequate and sane treatment of these stories in the high tide of mediaevalism which found a source of enchantment, enthusiasm, and inspiration in these world-old legends. Finally, Dr. Maynadier, with well-balanced consideration, illuminates Tennyson's treatment of the theme. The work was well worth doing and the author has done it well. No teacher of English can afford to miss reading this delightful book. It is most scholarly in tone and treatment, and sympathetic in a just appreciation. That it is not a mere scratching among old books is evident from some charming bits of description dispersed throughout the book, notably on pp. 184 and 185, where Dr. Maynadier describes the coast of Cornwall at Tintagel in storm and calm. We feel confident that no reader of this book will be disappointed.

H. E. COBLENTZ

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

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*Corneille-Polyeucte*. Edited with an Introduction and Notes by GEORGE N. HENNING, professor in the George Washington University. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1907. Pp. xxvi+108+41.

This edition of a play which the editor, following the majority of modern critics, assigns to the first place among Corneille's dramas, puts into the hands of the student the means for a thorough study of the masterpiece. The basis is the text of the "Grands Écrivains" edition. In the introduction the editor treats of pre-Cornelian tragedy, Corneille and his contemporaries, the religious drama, touches upon the current theological attitude of the time, and, lastly, discusses the *Polyeucte* itself. The dramatic structure of the play is analyzed in a very helpful manner. A suitable bibliography completes the introduction. The notes are exceptionally copious, but contain a larger amount of translation help than seems necessary to many. Considering, however, the early position of Corneille and his frequent use of words and phrases with meanings different from those found in the average dictionary, this may be a distinct advantage to the less-experienced student. The edition seems to be stimulating and adaptable.

H. R. BRUSH

HOPE COLLEGE  
Holland, Mich.

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*Corneille-Le Cid, Horace, Polyeucte*. Edited with an Introduction and Remarks by W. A. NITZE, professor in Amherst College, and notes by S. L. GALPIN, instructor in Amherst College. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1907. Pp. xxvii+306+87.

With the idea of providing apparatus for the study of Corneille and the earlier French classical tragedy, the editors have chosen three of the four dramas commonly assigned to the first rank, accompanying them with a well-written introduction and excellent notes.

Professor Nitze gives the student a very clear idea of the genesis of the

seventeenth-century French tragedy, leading up to his treatment of Corneille by a discussion of Jodelle, Garnier, Hardy, and Jean de Mairet. The relation of the dramas of Corneille to the Cartesian philosophy—to us a most important point in the explanation of their popularity—is more clearly brought out here than in any other American school edition that we have seen. The senior editor also vividly describes the historic “quarrel of the Cid” and explains the decline of Corneille before the more versatile genius of Racine. He magnifies somewhat the influence of the prolific Hardy, and his charge that Corneille had the fault of choosing “types” seems to be one that is characteristic of French literature rather than of Corneille alone.

Some points of less importance, commonly placed in an introduction, are left, probably advisedly, for elucidation in the notes. This is possibly the best place for them. The notes are exceedingly well written and avoid giving too much help in translation. They contain a world of information, direct and suggestive, on the literature, politics, and manners of the day, as well as explanations of many simple and interesting linguistic facts. This edition should be well received.

H. R. BRUSH